

Message Text

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43

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00

EB-07 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 BIB-01 L-02 ACDA-05

DODE-00 PM-03 NASA-01 NSC-05 OES-03 /050 W

----- 126341

R 031415Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 424

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 1513

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EXP, SA

SUBJECT: DOMESTIC COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE FOR SAUDI ARABIA

REF STATE 41394

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES SUGGESTION FOR SATELLITE MISSION. FORMAT OUTLINED IN REFTEL SOUNDS SATISFACTORY. WE WOULD ADVISE CAREFUL CONTACT WITH HUGHES ON THE QUESTION OF PARTICIPANTS. HUGHES VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE TODD INDICATED, DURING RECENT TIMAN MISSION, RELUCTANCE TO GO INTO DOMESTIC PROPOSAL BECAUSE OF OTHER HUGHES COMMITMENTS IN THE SATELLITE AREA AND TO PARTNERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

2. IN THE PAST EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GAIN ACCESS TO ADL REPORT. WE ARE NOT SANGUINE ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR A BRIEFING, BUT WILL WILLINGLY APPROACH MINCOMM ON THE SUBJECT. BEST BET IS THAT ADL BRIEFING, AS WELL AS BRIEFING ON CAPABILITIES WHICH ALL-ARAB SATELLITE WILL PROVIDE FOR SAUDI ARABIA WILL COME ONLY DURING VISIT BY MISSION. IF HUGHES IS WILLING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE ALL-ARAB SATELLITE, THAT WOULD BE DESIRABLE.

3. AS REFTEL ANTICIPATES, WE PREFER TO DEFER FOLLOW-UP WITH SAG UNTIL JOINT COMMISSION DELEGATION HAS HAD A CHANCE TO CIRCULATE RESULTS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT.

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THUS, MORE DETAILED SAG REACTION WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING

UNTIL AFTER MARCH 10 AT THE EARLIEST.

AKINS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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